



## CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 1, 2003

### **S. 1260**

### **Commercial Space Transportation Act of 2003**

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science,  
and Transportation on June 19, 2003*

#### **SUMMARY**

S. 1260 would authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2004 through 2008 for the Department of Transportation's (DOT's) regulatory and programmatic activities related to commercial space transportation systems. In addition, the bill would provide a five-year extension of DOT's authority to indemnify nonfederal entities that are licensed by DOT to provide such services.

Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1260 would cost a total of \$65 million over the 2004-2008 period. Enacting this bill would have no effect on direct spending or revenues.

S. 1260 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would not affect the budgets of state, local, and tribal governments.

#### **ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

The estimated budgetary impact of S. 1260 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 400 (transportation).

|  | By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars |      |      |      |      |      |
|--|--|------|------|------|------|------|
|  | 2003                                   | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 |
| <b>SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION</b> |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| Spending Under Current Law               |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| Budget Authority <sup>a</sup>            | 12                                     | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Estimated Outlays                        | 12                                     | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| Proposed Changes                         |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| Authorization Level                      | 0                                      | 13   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14   |
| Estimated Outlays                        | 0                                      | 11   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14   |
| Spending Under S. 1260                   |  |      |      |      |      |      |
| Authorization Level <sup>a</sup>         | 12                                     | 13   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14   |
| Estimated Outlays                        | 12                                     | 12   | 13   | 13   | 14   | 14   |

a. The 2003 level is the amount appropriated for that year for the Office of Commercial Space Transportation.

## **BASIS OF ESTIMATE**

For this estimate, CBO assumes that the amounts authorized will be appropriated near the start of each fiscal year and that outlays will follow historical trends for those activities. Based on information from DOT, we estimate that extending the department's indemnification authority through 2009 would have no significant budgetary effect over the next five years. DOT has had this indemnification authority since 1988 but has never had to pay claims to third parties for accidents involving commercial space vehicles or services.

## **INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT**

S. 1260 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would not affect the budgets of state, local, and tribal governments.

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